



Christmas in Farnham

When it comes to Christmas, Farnham is the place to visit. From local produce for your Yuletide feast, cheery decorations for your home, gifts for that 'difficult to buy for' person, Christmassy events and a fabulous choice of pubs and restaurants to get you in the festive spirit, Farnham has everything you need. Christmas in Farnham is sponsored by Farnham Veterinary Hospital.



Visit the Farnham Christmas Market Sunday 12 December, 10am to 4pm



Farnham's Christmas Market makes a welcome return this year. There will be over 150 stalls in Castle Street, The Borough and the Conservative Club in Ivy Lane selling gifts that are a little different, crafts, accessories, Christmas items, food, drink and more. Shoppers can expect there to be an emphasis on local, quality products.

The Farmers' Market will also be taking place in Central car park. Wander across to pick up some local produce and taste what a difference local makes.

The Christmas Market is supported by Gold sponsors Kidd Rapinet and Abbeyfield.

Attractions Food and drink

When you need a break from shopping, grab some food and drink from one of the several stalls selling takeaway food or opt for a more leisurely approach and call in at one of Farnham's many pubs, restaurants or cafes.

Entertainment

Local bands and musicians will play live music at various pitches around Farnham.

For kids

The Christmas Market is a family occasion and so there will be plenty to amuse the little ones. For young thrill seekers, search out the mini fairground. Plan time to visit Santa in his grotto so youngsters can deliver their Christmas list in person.

Getting to the market Walk

If you can, leave the car at home and head into Farnham town centre on foot so that you can fully appreciate the Christmas lights and festive shop windows.

Cycle

Avoid the traffic and cycle into Farnham. You can leave your bike at one of the cycle racks which are located at:

- Lower Hart car park, near the supermarket
- Farnham Library
- Waggon Yard car park
- Central car park
- Farnham Leisure Centre
- Farnham Town Council in South Street
- Railway station

FREE shuttle bus

A free shuttle bus service will be available to transport residents to and from the market. For full details about pick up points, visit www.farnham.gov.uk.

Car

If you travel by car, please park in one of Waverley's pay and display car parks where it is free to park on Sundays.

Road closures

Castle Street and The Borough will be closed to traffic. Diversions will be in place.

Three reasons to visit the December Farmers' Market Sunday 12 December, 10am to 4pm, Central car park, Victoria Road:

1. Hand pick a selection of local produce to make up a personalised hamper for the food lover in your life. Theme it with items for breakfast, a choice of pickles and chutneys to liven up a lunch box or a selection of non-alcoholic drinks.
2. Catering for somebody with special dietary requirements needn't be a chore this Christmas. Pick up menu ideas and all the ingredients you need to serve up delicious vegan, vegetarian or gluten free food.
3. All produce is grown, raised, caught, baked, pickled, processed or made within 50 miles of the market so you can feel good about reducing your festive food miles and lightening your carbon footprint.

The Farmers' Market is held on the fourth Sunday of every month from 10am-1.30pm.



Late night shopping

On Thursday 16 December many shops will remain open for late night shopping.

There will be live entertainment around the town from 4 to 8pm so you can expect there to be a very festive feel around Farnham.

A list of the shops taking part in late night shopping can be seen at www.farnham.gov.uk.

Online shopping with a personal touch

Online shopping is convenient, but gifts can lack the personal touch when bought from an anonymous retail giant. Farnham Town Council has helped to put local into online shopping by supporting www.wereafarnham.co.uk which is Farnham's very own online marketplace.

Browse the site to discover some of Farnham's best independent businesses. You can buy original work from local artists and makers, shop for clothing and fashion, buy local food and drink, items for the home or vouchers for a beauty or massage treatment. Purchases can be delivered or collected in person.

Win a Farnham Christmas hamper



Farnham Town Council has commissioned a local artist to create beautiful snowy scenes in 26 shop windows.

Take part in the snowy walking trail to see each of the windows and be in with a chance of winning one of three hampers packed full of items donated by the participating shops.

To download a trail leaflet, visit www.farnham.gov.uk or pick up a hard copy from Farnham Town Council in South Street.

This initiative is supported by Waverley Borough Council and ERDF funding.

Celebrate your local hero

Do you know someone who deserves recognition for their tireless voluntary efforts for the community? The Services to Farnham Awards recognise people who provide a crucial or outstanding service to the community on a voluntary basis. Sponsored by Sir Ray

Tindle, the awards culminate in a ceremony hosted by the Mayor of Farnham.

Nominations are open until 6 December. To nominate somebody amazing, visit www.farnham.gov.uk/services/servicestofarnham.

Farnham's winning streak

October was awards season with Farnham Town Council winning national recognition for its services.

Council of the Year



Farnham has been crowned England's Council of the Year in the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) prestigious Star Council Awards 2021. The town was one of four councils to make it to the finals with the

winner being decided by a people's vote.

In shortlisting Farnham, the judges cited the Town Council's 'track record of creativity, innovation, partnership and collaboration' and how its 'Achievements in 2020 show significant success despite uncertainties and challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic'. The judges looked for evidence showing how Farnham focused on the community during the pandemic and its impact.

Clerk of the Year – Runner up

Iain Lynch, Town Clerk at Farnham Town Council also came in for recognition at the Star Council Awards when he was named as a runner up in the Clerk of the Year category. Iain, who has been Town Clerk for ten years, was nominated for 'for making things happen, including crucially during the COVID-19 period'.

The judges' nomination highlighted that: 'During the pandemic, his service commitment to the community reached new levels, and he is constantly pushing the boundaries. Public service is not just a job for Iain. It's a passion, and, quite simply, he cares and sets the highest standards'.

Blooming success

Farnham in Bloom picked up a bunch of gold awards at South and South East in Bloom 2021.



For the first time ever, the judges awarded West Street Cemetery with Gold. The Town Centre and Large Town category received Gold for the tenth and ninth consecutive year and Badshot Lea Cemetery picked up a Gold award too. Gostrey Meadow which Farnham Town Council only started managing two years ago won Silver Gilt.

Farnham's community groups were also recognised. space2grow was awarded Outstanding in 'It's Your Neighbourhood', Silver Gilt in the 'Our Community' category and a Gold special award for 'Growing your Community'. Badshot Lea Bloomers were awarded 'advancing' and Hale Community Centre 'thriving' in the 'It's Your Neighbourhood' category.

The success of Farnham in Bloom relies upon the enthusiasm of an army of volunteers. If you are interested in being part of the 2022 campaign, please email bloom@farnham.gov.uk to find out about opportunities for getting involved.

Gostrey Meadow wins Green Flag award

Gostrey Meadow has been awarded a prestigious Green Flag award for the first time and just two years after Farnham Town Council took on the management of the park.

The Green Flag is an international mark of quality which aims to raise the standards of parks and green spaces

around the world. Fifty per cent of the mark was based on improvements Farnham Town Council has already made and 50 per cent was for the Council's ten-year management plan which details how it will ensure people continue to have access to this quality green space and that it is properly maintained and meets the needs of the community.



As well as putting in place an ambitious management plan, Farnham Town Council has set up a Friends group which helps with day-to-day volunteering activities. If you are interested in being part of the Friends' group that helps to look after the Meadow, please email bloom@farnham.gov.uk.

Deadline looms for grant applications

The deadline for applying for a Community Grant is 6 December but you still have until 3 January to submit an application for a South Street Trust grant.

The South Street Trust fund is for Farnham organisations that wish to apply for funding for an art-based educational activity. To be eligible for consideration, the projects must have a creative input.

Projects outside the Farnham area may be considered depending on how many beneficiaries are from the Farnham area. Performing arts such as drama, music and dance are not eligible for a grant but, if there is a creative connection to a performing arts project, then funding may be considered.

You can download an application form for both a Community grant and a South Street Trust grant at www.farnham.gov.uk/grants.



Farnham Town Council

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Winner of Council of the Year

in the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) Star Council Awards 2021



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